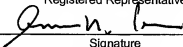


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Electronically  
Transmitted on the date noted below to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
November 27, 2007

Date of Deposit  
Amir N. Penn

Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative



Signature  
November 27, 2007  
Date of Signature

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Toru Kohda

Appln. No.: 10/551,629

Filed: September 30, 2005

For: PIPE JOINT AND SOCKET FOR  
PIPE JOINT

Examiner: Ripley, Jay R.

Art Unit: 3679

Confirmation No. 1800

Attorney Docket No: 10210/30

### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicant hereby cites the following reference(s):

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME
US 2003/0042734 A1	03/06/2003	Kuwabara

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS		
DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY
S48-020669-Y1	06/15/1973	Japan
S60-005181-Y2	02/16/1985	Japan

OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS
Supplementary European Search Report dated October 5, 2007 for European patent application no. EP 04 77 3307.

Applicant is enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2).

Japanese Utility Model Publication S48-020669Y1 discloses providing the inclined surfaces 31 and 32 for sleeve 13 to take up the forces from sleeve operation element 18 and locking element.

Japanese Utility Model Publication S60-005181-Y2 discloses forming a wide locking recess for plug 21.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the above references and entry thereof into the record of this application.

By submitting this Statement, Applicant is attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicant hereby certifies pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (a copy of


any foreign communication first citing a listed reference is attached for the Examiner's reference).

The Applicant or Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

November 27, 2007

Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Amir N. Penn  
(Reg. No. 40,767)